

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for sharing information concerning medical treatment of an individual that uses a network system in which a plurality of hospital terminals, a plurality of user terminals, and a database terminal for managing a database of information concerning medical treatment of an individual are mutually connected via a  
 5 communication network,

wherein information concerning medical treatment of an individual is shared after a user has acquired space for storing information concerning medical treatment of an individual and has acquired means for placing restrictions on and removing restrictions from access to the storage space by third parties including hospitals.

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2. A method for sharing information concerning medical treatment of an individual that uses a network system in which a plurality of hospital terminals, a plurality of user terminals, and a database terminal for managing a database of information concerning medical treatment of an individual are mutually connected via a  
 5 communication network, wherein

a hospital acquires a hospital ID and a hospital password,

a user acquires a user ID, a user password, a second password, and space for storing information concerning medical treatment of an individual in a database, and

a hospital acquires individual medical treatment information from the database  
 10 using the user ID, the second password, the hospital ID, and the hospital password as keys, and stores updated individual medical treatment information in the database using the user ID, the second password, the hospital ID, and the hospital password as keys.

3. The method for sharing information concerning medical treatment of an individual according to claim 2, wherein the user views individual medical treatment information on the database using the user ID and the user password as keys.
4. The method for sharing information concerning medical treatment of an individual according to claim 2, wherein a charge is levied on the hospital when the hospital acquires individual medical treatment information from the database.
5. The method for sharing information concerning medical treatment of an individual according to claim 2, wherein a charge is levied on the hospital when the hospital saves updated individual medical treatment information in the database.
6. The method for sharing information concerning medical treatment of an individual according to claim 3, wherein a charge is levied on the user when the user views individual medical treatment information.
7. The method for sharing information concerning medical treatment of an individual according to claim 2, wherein the user password is altered using the user ID and the user password as keys.
8. The method for sharing information concerning medical treatment of an individual according to claim 2, wherein the second password is altered using the user ID and the user password as keys.
9. The method for sharing information concerning medical treatment of an

individual according to claim 2, wherein, if updated individual medical treatment information is not saved in the database within a predetermined time after the hospital has acquired the individual medical treatment information from the database,  
 5 notification is sent to the hospital requesting updated individual medical treatment information.

10. The method for sharing information concerning medical treatment of an individual according to claim 2, wherein notification of the updating of the individual medical treatment information is sent to the user when updated individual medical treatment information is saved in the database.

11. The method for sharing information concerning medical treatment of an individual according to claim 2, wherein the user specifies a hospital and restricts access by the specified hospital to the space where the individual medical treatment information of the user is stored using the user ID and the user password as keys.

12. The method for sharing information concerning medical treatment of an individual according to claim 2, wherein, a cooperating company terminal that is used by a cooperating company that is in cooperation with whoever is managing the database is incorporated into the network system and, using this network system, the cooperating  
 5 company acquires a cooperating company ID and cooperating company password and, after the user has given permission for the individual medical treatment information to be made available to the cooperating company using the user ID and user password as keys, the cooperating company acquires the individual medical treatment information of the user from the database using the cooperating company ID and cooperating company

10 password as keys.

13. The method for sharing information concerning medical treatment of an individual according to claim 12, wherein a charge is levied on the cooperating company when the cooperating company acquires individual medical treatment information from the database.

14. The method for sharing information concerning medical treatment of an individual according to claim 2, wherein treatment costs are include in the individual medical treatment information.

15. The method for sharing information concerning medical treatment of an individual according to claim 14, wherein the user is issued with a treatment cost report calculated from the treatment costs on the database using the user ID and user password as keys.

16. The method for sharing information concerning medical treatment of an individual according to claim 2, wherein the database terminal receives a request sent from the hospital terminal or from the cooperating company terminal for the individual medical treatment information of the user to be made available and transfers the request  
5 to the user terminal of the user, and also receives an approval from the user terminal regarding the request for the individual medical treatment information to be made available.

17. A database terminal for information concerning medical treatment of an

individual comprising:

a computer program for sending a user password and a second password to a user terminal; and

- 5 a computer program that requests the second password when a person other than the user accesses the space where the individual medical treatment information is stored.

18. The method for sharing information concerning medical treatment of an individual according to claim 17, wherein there is further provided a computer program for requesting the user password when the second password is altered.

19. A database terminal for information concerning medical treatment of an individual comprising:

a computer program that counts a predetermined time from the point when individual medical treatment information is sent to a hospital terminal and determines  
5 whether or not updated individual medical treatment information has been received, and if a precondition of the predetermined time having passed and the updated individual medical treatment information not having been received is met, the computer program automatically sends a notification requesting an update of the individual medical treatment information to the hospital terminal.

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20. A database terminal for information concerning medical treatment of an individual comprising:

a computer program that determines whether or not updated individual medical treatment information has been received, and if a precondition of the updated individual

- 5 medical treatment information having been received is met, the computer program automatically sends a notification requesting an update of the individual medical treatment information to the hospital terminal.

21. A database terminal for information concerning medical treatment of an individual comprising:

- a computer program that follows a routine to a step in which set conditions concerning access restrictions on the space where the individual medical treatment
- 5 information is stored are altered if a precondition of the user password having been requested and the requested user password having been received is met.